

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. An information processing device for connecting to one or more
2 external devices, the information processing device comprising:
3 a storage area configured to store information relating to a predetermined set
4 of external devices, which is referenced when the one or more external devices to be
5 connected to the information processing device are initialized, wherein the storage area
6 comprises a first storage area for storing hardware type information including unique
7 information assigned respectively to the predetermined set of external devices, and a second
8 storage area for storing attribute information corresponding to the unique information
9 assigned respectively to the predetermined set of external devices; and

10 a processor configured to obtain hardware type information and base type
11 information from a connected external device and to determine, for initializing the connected
12 external device, whether or not the hardware type information obtained from the external
13 device is stored in the first storage area, and if the obtained hardware type information is not
14 stored in the first storage area, to initialize the connected external device by referring to the
15 base type information relating to the external device obtained from the external device, and
16 attribute information stored in the second storage area.

1 2. The information processing device of claim 1 wherein the base type
2 information comprises at least one of a capacity and an emulation type of the external device.

1 3. The information processing device of claim 1 wherein the processor is
2 configured, if the obtained hardware type information is not stored in the first storage area, to
3 initialize the connected external device as a specific one of the predetermined set of external
4 devices if the base type information obtained from the connected external device is same as
5 or interchangeable with the attribute information of the specific one of the predetermined set
6 of external devices stored in the second storage area.

1 4. The information processing device of claim 1 wherein the information
2 processing device is a storage control device, and the one or more external devices are disk
3 devices to be connected to the storage control device.

1 5. An information processing device for connecting to one or more
2 external devices, the information processing device comprising:

3 a storage area configured to store information relating to a predetermined set
4 of external devices, which is referenced when the one or more external devices to be
5 connected to the information processing device are initialized, wherein the storage area
6 comprises a first storage area for storing hardware type information including unique
7 information assigned respectively to the predetermined set of external devices, and a second
8 storage area for storing attribute information corresponding to the unique information
9 assigned respectively to the predetermined set of external devices; and

10 a processor configured to compare the base type information relating to the
11 characteristics of the external device obtained from the external device with the attribute
12 information accumulated in the second storage area, and if the base type information matches
13 the attribute information corresponding to the unique information assigned to one matching
14 external device in the predetermined set of external devices, to initialize the connected
15 external device by identifying the external device as the one matching external device.

1 6. The information processing device of claim 5 wherein the base type
2 information comprises at least one of a capacity and an emulation type of the external device.

1 7. An information processing device for connecting to one or more
2 external devices, the information processing device comprising:

3 a storage area configured to store information relating to a predetermined set
4 of external devices, which is referenced when the one or more external devices to be
5 connected to the information processing device are initialized, wherein the storage area
6 comprises a first storage area for storing hardware type information including unique
7 information assigned respectively to the predetermined set of external devices, and a second
8 storage area for storing attribute information corresponding to the unique information
9 assigned respectively to the predetermined set of external devices; and

10 a processor configured, if the obtained hardware type information is not stored
11 in the first storage area, to compare the hardware type information obtained from the external
12 device with the hardware type information stored in the first storage area, and to initialize the
13 connected external device by using the base type information corresponding to the hardware
14 type information stored in the first storage area which most closely resembles the obtained
15 hardware type information.

1 8. The information processing device of claim 7 wherein the processor is
2 configured to initialize the connected external device by using the base type information

3 corresponding to the hardware type information stored in the first storage area, if the obtained
4 hardware type information and the stored hardware type information which most closely
5 resembles the obtained hardware type information have a matching character string sequence
6 of a preset minimum threshold.

1 9. The information processing device of claim 8 wherein the processor is
2 configured, if the obtained hardware type information and the stored hardware type
3 information which most closely resembles the obtained hardware type information do not
4 have a matching character string sequence of the preset minimum threshold, to initialize the
5 connected external device by referring to the base type information relating to the external
6 device obtained from said external device, and attribute information stored in the second
7 storage area.

1 10. The information processing device of claim 9 wherein the processor is
2 configured, if the obtained hardware type information and the stored hardware type
3 information which most closely resembles the obtained hardware type information do not
4 have a matching character string sequence of the preset minimum threshold, to initialize the
5 connected external device as a specific one of the predetermined set of external devices if the
6 base type information obtained from the connected external device is same as or
7 interchangeable with the attribute information of the specific one of the predetermined set of
8 external devices stored in the second storage area.

1 11. A method for controlling initialization of an external device which is to
2 be connected to an information processing device, the method comprising:

3 obtaining hardware type information and base type information of the
4 connected external device;

5 determining whether or not the obtained hardware type information of the
6 connected external device is present in a storage area of the information processing device for
7 storing information relating to a predetermined set of external devices, wherein the storage
8 area comprises a first storage area for storing hardware type information including unique
9 information assigned respectively to the predetermined set of external devices, and a second
10 storage area for storing attribute information corresponding to the unique information
11 assigned respectively to the predetermined set of external devices; and

12 if the obtained hardware type information is not present in the storage area,
13 initializing the connected external device by referring to the base type information relating to

14 the external device obtained from the external device, and attribute information stored in the
15 second storage area.

1 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the base type information comprises
2 at least one of a capacity and an emulation type of the external device.

1 13. The method of claim 11 wherein if the obtained hardware type
2 information is not stored in the storage area, the connected external device is initialized as a
3 specific one of the predetermined set of external devices if the base type information obtained
4 from the connected external device is same as or interchangeable with the attribute
5 information of the specific one of the predetermined set of external devices stored in the
6 second storage area.

1 14. A method for controlling initialization of an external device which is to
2 be connected to an information processing device, the method comprising:

3 obtaining hardware type information and base type information of the
4 connected external device;

5 determining whether or not the obtained hardware type information of the
6 connected external device is present in a storage area of the information processing device for
7 storing information relating to a predetermined set of external devices, wherein the storage
8 area comprises a first storage area for storing hardware type information including unique
9 information assigned respectively to the predetermined set of external devices, and a second
10 storage area for storing attribute information corresponding to the unique information
11 assigned respectively to the predetermined set of external devices; and

12 if the obtained hardware type information is not present in the storage area,
13 comparing the base type information relating to the characteristics of the external device
14 obtained from the connected external device with the attribute information accumulated in the
15 second storage area, and if the base type information matches the attribute information
16 corresponding to the unique information assigned to one matching external device in the
17 predetermined set of external devices, initializing the connected external device by
18 identifying the external device as the one matching external device.

1 15. The method of claim 14 wherein the base type information comprises
2 at least one of a capacity and an emulation type of the external device.

1 16. A method for controlling initialization of an external device which is to
2 be connected to an information processing device, the method comprising:

3 obtaining hardware type information and base type information of the
4 connected external device;

5 determining whether or not the obtained hardware type information of the
6 connected external device is present in a storage area of the information processing device for
7 storing information relating to a predetermined set of external devices, wherein the storage
8 area comprises a first storage area for storing hardware type information including unique
9 information assigned respectively to the predetermined set of external devices, and a second
10 storage area for storing attribute information corresponding to the unique information
11 assigned respectively to the predetermined set of external devices; and

12 if the obtained hardware type information is not present in the storage area,
13 comparing the hardware type information obtained from the external device with the
14 hardware type information stored in the first storage area, and initializing the connected
15 external device by using the base type information corresponding to the hardware type
16 information stored in the first storage area which most closely resembles the obtained
17 hardware type information.

1 17. The method of claim 16 wherein the connected external device is
2 initialized by using the base type information corresponding to the hardware type information
3 stored in the first storage area, if the obtained hardware type information and the stored
4 hardware type information which most closely resembles the obtained hardware type
5 information have a matching character string sequence of a preset minimum threshold.

1 18. The method of claim 17 wherein, if the obtained hardware type
2 information and the stored hardware type information which most closely resembles the
3 obtained hardware type information do not have a matching character string sequence of the
4 preset minimum threshold, the connected external device is initialized by referring to the base
5 type information relating to the external device obtained from said external device, and
6 attribute information stored in the second storage area.

1 19. The method of claim 18 wherein, if the obtained hardware type
2 information and the stored hardware type information which most closely resembles the
3 obtained hardware type information do not have a matching character string sequence of the

4 preset minimum threshold, the connected external device is initialized as a specific one of the
5 predetermined set of external devices if the base type information obtained from the
6 connected external device is same as or interchangeable with the attribute information of the
7 specific one of the predetermined set of external devices stored in the second storage area.

1 20. The method of claim 16 wherein the base type information comprises
2 at least one of a capacity and an emulation type of the external device.